

**June 29, 2017**

**Opinion Leaders Throughout the Gulf Agree — Administration must go back to the drawing board on NTL**

Since the then-Obama administration pushed through the harmful Notice to Lessees on decommissioning, leaders throughout the Gulf of Mexico region have demanded new leadership in Washington re-examine these rules as the previous administration departed.

In fact, just this week, Nikki Martin, President of the International Association of Geophysical Contractors, wrote in the Texas Tribune on how the President's Executive Order on Offshore development was a great first start, but the NTL review is the next most important step for the region. Check it out here.

Also, pull up this document to read about all the other leaders that have weighed in on this topic.

[Compiled Press 6.26.17](#)

**May 1, 2017**

**Gulf Energy Alliance Applauds Trump Administration “America First Offshore Energy Executive Order”**

Today, GEA released the below statement, upon Secretary Zinke signing the Secretarial Order in Houston at OTC, to begin implementation of the America First Offshore Energy Executive Order. Signed by President Trump on Friday, this Executive Order will remove barriers for investment in the Gulf of Mexico and unleash continued economic growth for our region.

The following statement can be attributed to Matt McCarroll, CEO of Fieldwood Energy and a Founding Member of the Gulf Energy Alliance:

“The America First Offshore Energy Executive Order signed by President Trump last Friday and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke’s Secretarial Order today are positive developments and a clear signal of the return of government to the table as a partner – and not an adversary – in the safe and responsible development of our nation’s abundant offshore resources. We are particularly encouraged that the Executive Order specifically requests the Department of Interior to review Notice to Lessees 2016- N01 regarding financial assurance obligations and instructs the Agency to minimize unnecessary regulatory burdens on the industry in a new financial assurance framework.

Independent operators in the Gulf, as represented by the Gulf Energy Alliance, remain committed to working with the Trump administration to create solutions that ensure industry’s accountability to U.S. taxpayers for its offshore obligations. It is critical that financial assurance requirements – and any other regulations for that matter – maintain that accountability in a manner that is workable, achievable and does not create unnecessary burdens for continued investment in the Gulf of Mexico.

A more reasonable, collaborative approach to offshore regulation will make the Gulf of Mexico more attractive for capital investment and could add billions of dollars in royalty payments to the US Treasury while continuing to support tens of thousands of jobs across the Gulf Coast.”

You can download our statement by clicking here — [5.1.17\\_GEA\\_Statement\\_EO](#).

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**April 18, 2017**

### **Op-ed: Drain the Swamp, Not the Gulf**

Last week, John Melko, a partner in the Houston office of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP and chair of the firm’s Financial Restructuring and Reorganization Practice Group, penned this op-ed for the Oil & Gas Financial Journal.

John correctly pointed out how the NTL issued by BOEM late last year is a solution in search of a problem: “Despite all the recent bankruptcies of offshore operators, the government has not had to spend any of its (i.e., our) money to perform plugging and abandonment (P&A) or decommissioning work. The reasons are explained below, but keep that fact in mind as you think about the effect that NTL-2016 and the increased bonding requirements have had, and will have, on the industry.”

Thank you John for your perspective. We encourage you all to check it out!

**March 23, 2017**

### **Life on a Platform**

The Wall Street Journal just produced this illustrative web piece on “Life on Mars,” a Gulf of Mexico oil drilling platform run by Royal Dutch Shell. Check it out [here](#)!

**March 21, 2017**

### **Gulf Energy Alliance Employees Weigh In with New Administration**

GEA is pleased to showcase the employee stories of several Gulf Energy Alliance Founding Member Companies. Employees throughout the Gulf are ready for the new leadership in Washington, to roll back regulations and put forward new policies to unleash the potential for growth in the Gulf of Mexico.

You can check out their stories here: [GEA\\_Employee\\_Narratives\\_3.1.1](#)

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**March 1, 2017**

### **Gulf Energy Alliance Applauds Bipartisan Support in Senate for Ryan Zinke as Secretary of the Department of Interior**

Today, the U.S. Senate, in a bipartisan show of support, approved the nomination of Ryan Zinke to become Secretary of the Department of Interior. The Gulf Energy Alliance issued the below statement, attributed to Matt McCarroll, CEO of Fieldwood Energy and a Founding Member of the Gulf Energy Alliance:

“The Gulf Energy Alliance applauds the Senate’s overwhelmingly bipartisan support of Rep. Ryan Zinke as Secretary of the Department of Interior. This agency has the opportunity to unleash unprecedented growth for the offshore industry in the Gulf of Mexico. We especially look forward to working with Secretary Zinke to address industry’s concerns with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management’s recent Notice to Lessees (NTL) regarding financial assurance requirements. In order to deliver on our country’s energy promise, the Trump Administration must rollback this NTL and other legacy regulations that have unnecessarily inhibited the growth potential for this slice of the energy economy, which represents 17% of total U.S. crude oil production. Zinke had a fantastic record as an “all of the above” energy supporter in the U.S. House, and we could not be more pleased with his selection and the news of his confirmation. Above all, GEA and other industry participants in the GOM view his bipartisan support as a reflection of Americans’ appetite for energy security and energy independence, and a clear sign that the federal government has returned as a partner – and not an adversary – in the safe and responsible development of our nation’s offshore energy resources.”

**February 22, 2017**

### **BOEM Announces Additional Delays**

As the new Trump Administration reviews policies for the offshore industry, BOEM announced yet another series of delays on implementation last Friday (2/17) of the controversial NTL announced in September 2016.

You can read more about this decision by clicking [here](#) and [here](#).

Leaders with the Gulf Energy Alliance and its national Alliance Partners will continue to communicate the region’s clear concerns on the effects of this new regulation and its likely unintended consequences for the Gulf of Mexico and the surrounding communities.

**January 30, 2017**

**Senator Kennedy Steps Up For Louisiana Constituents on BOEM NTL**

Last week, newly sworn-in Senator John Kennedy from Louisiana joined the chorus of U.S. Senators and U.S. House of Representatives stepping forward and urging the Trump Administration to rollback the damaging Notice to Lessees issued by the previous administration regarding financial assurance requirements for decommissioning costs.

In his letter, the Senator said: “As you said last Friday in your inaugural address, ‘We’ve enriched foreign industry at the expense of American industry...’ That couldn’t be more true with regard to our energy sector and, specifically, the application of this Notice to Lessees. It’s time that policies from unelected bureaucrats with extreme viewpoints be swept away so that we can put the American people back to work and make us less dependent on energy from the Middle East.”

We are thrilled Senator Kennedy stepped forward to support his constituents and the offshore industry throughout Louisiana. You can read his letter to the Trump Administration by [clicking here](#).

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Thank you Senator!